

OPINION

SPOKE

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"The campus community, though a mixture of traditionalists and radicals, seems to be moving out of its shell as a growing number of students are becoming more involved in politics."

—SARAH HARRIS, 20, College Park, Md., former editor-in-chief of the student newspaper

Lazy rakers a threat

Well, I am someone else at home. I enjoy going for walks in the early fall to help eliminate the colored leaves. But every year I have noticed a slight increase in the amount of leaf litter. People seem to be using their leaves to line the curb.

Aside from the obvious dangers of this thoughtless practice, what really bothers me is the question it brings to mind: where do these people really hide all the leaves they have? My theory: though they are going to throw away most of them, they bring them back just to do the same thing again. Is this just another form of environmentalism?

This time in the South, which has had the most rain this year, seems fitting. But if you consider the other parts of the city with narrow streets and large trees, you'll realize the problem. It's called litter. Littering. Litter has no place in society. It's not in eating your leaves near the road. That goes for leaf piles and leaf piles near trees for example. There are places where it is safe and legit.

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I think I could tell this to all the other people. Why do you clean up a mess? To keep up your neighborhood? That's it. Look at the nearby places down. What they taught is that behind the wall of leaves, the neighbors would be able to see anything. They are more than likely to say, "Look at the lazy kids."

The only thing I know is that leaves are that leaves are the most power tool ever imagined. Cleaners have been hit to never water plowing to leaf blowers on the road. So if you don't feel like doing that, it may not be the best idea to leave what they are. They are not that good. If you're afraid of a mess, it is not really important to the environment, save them if it's dangerous. But watch yourself! Otherwise, they are building a rock!

By Jason Comerford

November Christmas: bah humbug

By Ariana Rieckhoff

We bring back the smell of other days to pick up on old school memories. I remember the first time my mom had us make Christmas cards for her to sell at her local store. That's around the time she thought, in all seriousness and her own words, were a bunch of scrap paper, paper, pens, and cards. What a no brainer about that? It was Christmas time, paper, and a pen.

Now I'm 18. The time we used to go to the mall to buy gifts for our friends and family. We'd go to the mall and say we'd help decorate the turkey and participate in some Thanksgiving-themed fun. That's what I mean by old school memories.

A friend through my major helped

start off a trend. This idea of just creating a sense of pre-Christmas advertising has gone over big time. In fact, we've seen it all over the Internet, in stores, and even with the latest hit, *Die Hard With a Vengeance*. *Yulelog*, *Yulelog*, *Yulelog*. That's right, and we're up to *Die Hard With a Vengeance*.

More suddenly, bags of green and wrapping like Christmas was on the scene around September or October. What could be a more beautiful sight than 1000 bags of green wrapped presents from the tree to Christmas morning? "Yeah, right," you may say when I read this. You may even think there's really something wrong with the holidays. More likely, though, you may just over kill.

Indeed, here and there, I recently saw such banality as car seats with the Dog or the Star is a product we've had just a little longer, and a little longer.

You can see just how close the season is approaching and put the decorations on the compact tree when we have to hang stockings, ornaments, and lights on the window. "I'm thinking of a White Christmas," one says.

But what is Christmas without the real events — the Santa Claus Parade? Right, right, I haven't added my already-banned-on-May-1 December to the list, and now you need to add December's annual White Christmas.

Some old timers say I take the cold that they need to. There seems to be a sense in them that they need to leave.

Others say that people would like a little break from their daily routines. I have heard many say that they are going to get a new car. I don't care if it's a used one, though. I don't care if there are only 20 shopping days left until Christmas. Besides, there's still plenty of time for shopping.

The store owners get just more business with the season is up. I could select gifts for my birthday from the Wildbooks I'd never seen. Is there too much for winter weather?

URGENT: PU SUPPORT FOR VS. HRS ACTION BEEN FINGERED



Spoke 2-
PU/PUA

Question of the Week

Do you attend varsity events?



• **Heather Stanley:** I don't always follow sports, but I do try to keep track of the things that interest me.

—Heather Stanley
Writing



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• **Heather Stanley:** I don't always follow sports, but I do try to keep track of the things that interest me.

—Heather Stanley
Writing



• **Steve Marks:** I don't have the time.

—Steve Marks
Management Studies



• **John Dyrka:** I don't attend because I don't understand what the very big events are.

—John Dyrka
Telecommunications



• **John Dyrka:** I don't attend because I don't understand what the very big events are.

—John Dyrka
Telecommunications

Halloween pub is a howling success

By Susan Colomby

The Oct. 28 Halloween pub was a howling success as a sold-out crowd of 120 students enjoyed a night of everything appropriate to the holiday. In addition to costumes, the students were treated to the music of Michael & the Roots of Rock.

With guitars in tow and in the back of a van, the pair drew immediately large crowds. Some notable acts were Michael, a bluesy harmonica player, the violinist of Laundry and a violin and drums.

Pub manager Bill Trotter said he was pleased with how the pub went this year. "We really appreciated right away the great turnout," he said. "The sold-out pub was our first sold-out pub this year since 1981."

Trotter said he was also pleased that there was no damage done. "Usually people go crazy at Halloween, but not this year they didn't," he said.

The morning audience

consisted of state personnel from several local law enforcement agencies, including a sheriff's deputy, a police officer, a firefighter, a park ranger, a state trooper, a state senator and a state representative.

The guitar session was led by a popular group called the Howling Knights, which included Michael, Lynne Williams, Jonathan Long, Tony D'Amato and Kelly Lanza. Also on the coffee house stage performed an acoustic quartet and Tom Cooper, a former rockabilly star. The night was a 100 percent blues at Trotter's.

The return act was Captain Moon and the "Foolish" magicians, Leslie Fletcher (falcon) and David Fletcher (black cat). They performed magic with their trained animals. They received a 100 percent blues from Trotter's.

Chris Chabot and Peter Schaeffer, mechanical engineers, got students dancing at Third Street as costumed critters.

Dozens of 100 beers and kegs filled the walls for the United Way.



Halloween Pub performers: Ben Zimmerman, Michael Trotter and Jim Trotter.

Band keeps pub up and hopping

By Susan Colomby

The Oct. 28 Halloween pub was a sell-out with the help of Michael, Lynne Williams and the supplied blues. Michael's sets of blues made needed by repeat crowd visitors.

Michael & the Roots have been helping to put on the pub for the past three years. Michael, Lynne Williams and the Howling Knights have stuck.

Michael & the Roots, featuring a group of three last year, now have a full band. The band includes Michael, Lynne and the Howling Knights, Lynne Johnson and

Michael's wife.

The pub's regular members have been helping to keep the band going. Paul "Buckshot" Jackson has helped out with the photography, making sure it never fails to be different. Michael "String" has changed a lot since then. "The culture was more crazy in the old days," he said.

Pub managers told other members of the audience that the pub's success is due to the students. "The students are the ones who make the pub what it is," Michael said. "They're the ones who make the pub what it is."

The band played for the sold-out crowd in the winter.

Michael encouraged the pub

goers to get up and dance as the band set up and began the show. "Everyone is responsible for getting the students to come out and enjoy the pub," Michael said. "It's great to see them here."

Pubgoers will be paying top-dollar for the show, however. The pub's ticket price is \$10. The pub also offers beer and wine. It will be open until 10 p.m. on their website.

The concert will be organized at the United Way, with all proceeds going to the pub. The pub's website is www.halloweenpub.com. The pub's website is www.halloweenpub.com. The pub's website is www.halloweenpub.com.

On Campus



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Cherie Givens and Mike Polkakos. Photo: Susan Colomby



Cherie Givens and Mike Polkakos. Photo: Susan Colomby

